Shotwell, J T [Columbia University,] Oct 1916 - July 1917

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Columbia University
in the City of New York
FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Oct 14. 1916

Dear President Falconer,

I am sending you by this mail the first three volumes of a series which I am editing for the Columbia Press, in the hope that you may be interested in the plan of the enterprise if not in the imperfect realization. I suppose, though, that you will feel a certain sense of the unreality of such works of scholarship in view of the crisis of the present. I confess that just now I would rather be in the trenches than here. And yet I know that if Canada and this country are ever to carry on the liberal culture of the old world, such tasks as I have set myself are of the first importance.

In any case it gives me very real pleasure to send these texts to you, and with them the expression of my sincere regard.

Yours faithfully
James T. Shotwell

President Falconer
Toronto University

Shotwell, J. T.
Columbia University
Oct. 1916 - July 1917

October 26th, 1916

Professor J. T. Shotwell,

Columbia University.

My dear Professor Shotwell:

The books that you have been kind enough to send me arrived yesterday, but I have not had time to more than glance at them. I hope, however, shortly to be able to give more attention to them and to understand the scope of your work. I am confident that whatever you have undertaken will be well done and a real contribution to the subject. I am particularly pleased that you thought of me in this connection and I appreciate the gift very highly. I hope that you and Mrs. Shotwell are both well.

You may remember that when I saw you in Maron we were all very anxious about Verdun, and you were wondering what reserves the French had. Now at last the French seem to have covered themselves with glory, and the Germans to have been finally driven back. We hope so at any rate. We are looking with a great deal of anxiety at the situation in Roumania, yet it does seem that the German reserves are pretty much exhausted.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

Columbia University
in the City of New York
FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

January 26, 1917

President Robert A. Falconer
University of Toronto
Toronto, Ontario

Dear President Falconer

The other day I sent you a telegram which may have surprised you somewhat and yet I imagine not entirely.

President Wilson's speech invited such varying interpretations that it seemed likely to my mind to stir up a degree of misunderstanding between Canada and the United States which should be countered at once; but all of us who are anxious to further the good relations between the two countries and who are hopeful for a future in which our ideals may be worked out, need the inspiration of clearer and more definitely directed agencies.

It occurred to me, therefore, that you might help me to take up the hint supplied by the New York World on Wednesday and, cutting through the whole mass of verbiage, seize upon a formula which could at once meet the misleading formula which Wilson himself had supplied. I dare say that the World editorial was unduly clever. I do not think that Mr. Wilson himself had any very clear idea as to what he was saying; but it will be our duty on this side of the line to try to make him say intelligent things from now on, and I take it that you will cooperate cordially with me in securing as indulgent an interpretation as can be placed upon his words by Canadian statesmen and the Canadian press. If we can by this means eliminate what would otherwise promise to be a growing friction between the two countries at a time when emotion is tense in Canada, we shall I hope have done something worth the trouble it gives us.

I telegraphed as well to Mr. J. A. MacDonald of the Globe and Mr. Greenwood,

editor of the Toronto World. The latter I know personally as we were in College together, but Mr. MacDonald I have never met and he might be somewhat puzzled as to the source of the telegram which I sent him. (I now understand that Mr Greenwood is no longer editor of the World!)

I am writing now to ask if you will help me to make my services in this cause more real. I should like to throw myself into this thing for awhile, or so long as there is any chance of incidents arising which would lead towards bad feeling.

May I, in the first place, ask you for a list of a few of the most important men to whom I might send explanatory material, produced here, which could help to allay suspicions and enable them in Canada to see our problem as we see it, and discount where we discount the phrases and words that lead to irritation?

In that connection, may I also ask you for the names of one or two Canadian writers who could supply reliable articles for the American press? The New Republic, for instance,- a weekly journal here which is growing in influence because of its obvious connection with the White House- has asked me to recommend some Canadians who could supply them with articles interpreting Canadian feeling and describing Canadian conditions, for their readers. This journal, as you know, is liberal and somewhat radical in its tendencies and the kind of an article they would desire would be not an imperialistic or overdrawn statement of what Canada is doing, but rather a sober judgment upon its purposes and the trend of its policies; critical if need be but not over-critical. They will pay for such articles at the rate of two cents a word.

I think I can place other material, if it could be supplied to me, in journals of just as great importance.

Getting back to this incident of Mr. Wilson's speech, I see that the World is continuing its policy of interpreting the speech away and is making its interpretation seem to be the orthodox one by scolding all other attempts to find a different

meaning in a very authoritative tone of voice. I was fortunately able to get its editorial cabled across the Atlantic to France, but I cannot keep this thing going unless we can work up some cooperation all around. I need not say that I have no special enthusiasm for the New York World, but, as it is regarded as a semi-official organ at the present moment, everything it says which helps to save the situation can be given double weight.

I believe I never wrote you to thank you for the address on ~~Capital~~ Progress. I read it with a great deal of enthusiasm. One is certainly obliged to pause in the judgments of history and society at the present time, and yet I believe that, in the growing control over nature, there is rendered inevitable a more intelligent and with that a more wholesome attitude towards humanity; and in spite of all the militarism which has brought this tragedy upon the world, the future of the race seems to me to be more secure than it has ever been.

With kindest regards, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

James T. Shotwell.

January 26th, 1917

Professor J. T. Shotwell,

Columbia University, New York.

My dear Professor Shotwell:

I received your telegram on Wednesday night and at once communicated with the three morning papers and then with the three evening papers. I am afraid, however, that they have taken very little notice of my communication, though I spoke to each personally.

The feeling here is pretty strong against Wilson and the great majority of the people I think I may say of Canada are convinced that the United States will go its own way and that we will go ours. To the great regret of most of us it appears that these ways are becoming more divergent rather than drawing closer. This I cannot help thinking is due in great measure to lack of moral decision on the part of Wilson himself. I still hope, however, that we shall draw more closely together in the future, for I have not yet lost hope that the British Empire and the United States will hold together along with France for the maintenance of democracy and predominantly Anglo-Saxon ideals.

It seems to me that Wilson has not given utterance to anything but the opinion of the average American. I seem to hear a great voice of the better element of the people, as for instance the utterance of Mr. Root this morning, crying for some one to express their deepest convictions, and that expression has been lacking.

I regret this exceedingly, because I once held Wilson is very high regard.

Yesterday I read his letter over again, and probably modified my first opinion somewhat. The interpretation which I give now is that it was meant almost entirely for the American people, that he really is hoping not to join in the facing of terms of peace now but to induce the American people to take a share in guaranteeing peace afterwards. This is of course a tremendous task and a great change. Naturally he tells them the kind of peace he desires, and that peace is unquestionably the kind of one for which the Allies have been fighting. The Teutons could not possibly accept it.

The only consistent interpretation that I can give of his unfortunate words "peace without victory" is that in this instance he is keeping his eye on the Allies and is telling them to not be too hard upon the enemy; your victory is certain but make it possible for me by your terms of peace to bring in the American people to help in the guarantee of their perpetuation. What do you think of this interpretation ? I know how strongly you feel and how heavily you have been burdened by the war. I shall be very glad if you will let me know your view of the situation.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

FORM 1 U.T. 155

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
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Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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Z. A. LASH, PRESIDENT — HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT. — GEO. D. PERRY, GENERAL MANAGER

B. nat Ie fones 6 u New York 27

Mar 17

President R- a. Falconer.
Toronto University

Could You lunch with me
Saturday to meet some friends

J. J. Shotwell

232 pm

Columbia University
in the City of New York
FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Jan 30 1917

Dear President Falconer,

Many thanks for your letter. I wish I might quote it to some of my friends who seem unable to realize the danger in the growing cleavage between Canada and the United States. You will remember your letter before this in which I took upon the same theme

Now, is it asking too much, to take your time helping me secure a list of names of men in Ontario, in all professions and from all religious and political parties, — to whom we could send a certain amount of post

Columbia University
in the City of New York
FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

that kind of literature which will give expression to the ideas of our better class Americans? You speak of the fact that people at present are fortunate. That is largely true, but not entirely so. For instance practically the whole press of the East has followed the lead of The World in interpreting Wilson as not in favor of now in the war at all, but simply stating the kind of peace in which this country could cooperate. I don't think that is what Mr. Wilson meant. I think he wanted to intervene. But we can, to a large degree, make him mean what we think. Now, outside of the U. S. A. I suppose many the speech items will be

either read or referred to. I am trying to get an organization under way which can deal with just such a situation and let Canada and England know what the sober opinion of this country really is.

We need a list of 500 names from all Canada. I am writing as well to others especially in the North West, and to clergymen and a business man or two. It is important to secure a list of men whose minds are open; who have a glimpse of our ideals, or who can see what those ideals are. Perhaps, if you are too busy to help I don't by any means expect too from any one!

Columbia University
in the City of New York

FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

You could turn the matter over to [illegible]
who could work out.

With many thanks for your
letter, believe me

Sincerely yours

James T. Shotwell

February 2nd, 1917

Professor J. T. Shotwell,

Columbia University, New York.

My dear Professor Shotwell:

I am grateful to you for two very interesting letters. Possibly I should not write to you until we have learned definitely what action the President proposes to take with respect to the recent communication of Germany. It seems to me that there is only one course best to him, and if he takes it then a long step will have been taken towards insuring for creating the best of relations between us and the United States.

Since last I wrote you we have had a visit from Professor Scofield of Harvard. I had two interesting talks with him, in both of which he very earnestly supported the view that you have been setting forth in your letters. His expert advice is that Canadians should say nothing at the present time. I think as a matter of fact that very little has been said in our press; that with very few exceptions our public men and the press have been particularly restrained, because however subtle President Wilson's meaning may be, and I am willing to admit that he has an underlying intention that is not evident at first, it must be acknowledged that the surface import of his words was irritating to our people who are intensely in earnest about this matter.

I have spoken to several about the possibility of our having articles supplied for the American press. You mention in particular "The New Republic". Though I have seen only a few numbers myself I have heard a good deal about it and the impression that it has created in the minds of the men who I think might be induced to write is not favourable.

On thinking the whole situation over I am doubtful whether Canadians should write at all for American journals. It is difficu to see what really could be said about the attitude of Canada at present. My own view is that the less that is said by our people the better.

On the other hand I agree with you that it would be advantageous to have material sent from the United States to our papers and our leading men, setting forth the hopes and aspirations of the old Anglo-Saxon element which we trust will in time be able to control the situation in the United States.

I agree entirely with you and Schofield that the future depends very largely upon the relations of the British Empire and the United States, and that one of the best services which Canada can render at present both to the Empire and to future civilisation is to side constantly with the best elements in the United States, and by that I mean those who are akin to us.

I shall therefore always be glad to help you in suggesting names to whom well digested material might be sent. I append a list of names. If there is anything further that I can do for you let

me know. I shall be glad to speak to men individually on the matter as I have already done to some.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

Sir John Willison, Toronto "News".

C. A. C. Jennings, "Mail and Empire", Toronto.

Stewart Lyon, "Globe", Toronto.

J. R. Bone, "Star", Toronto.

The Editor, "Gazette", Montreal.

The Editor, "Citizen", Ottawa.

The Editor, Spectator", Hamilton.

The Editor, "Herald", Hamilton.

J. Dafoe,"Free Press", Winnipeg. (Is most influential writer in the West. He is a literal).

The Editor, "Telegram", Winnipeg.

The Editor, "Canadian Baptist", Toronto.

The Editor, "Canadian Churchman", Toronto.

The Editor, "Canadian Congregationalist", Toronto.

The Editor, "Catholic Register", Toronto.

The Editor, "Christian Guardian", Toronto.

The Editor, "Presbyterian", Toronto.

Hon. W. H. Hearst, Premier of Ontario, Toronto.

N. W. Rowell, Esq., Canada Life Building, Toronto.

Hon. W. T. White, Minister of Finance, Ottawa.

Hon. Arthur Meighen, Ottawa.

Sir George Foster, Ottawa.

Sir Wilfred Laurier, Ottawa

Sir Charles Fitzpatrick, Ottawa.

Hon. G. P. Graham, Ottawa.

Hon. Sir Clifford Sifton, Ottawa.

Sir Lomer Gouin, Quebec.

Hon. G. H. Murray, Premier of Nova Scotia, Halifax.

Venerable Archdeacon Coly, 608 Jarvis Street, Toronto.

Archbishop S. Matheson, Primate of Canada, Winnipeg, Man.

Rev. H. Symonds, Montreal.

Provost Macklem, Trinity College, Toronto.

Chancellor Bowles, Victoria College, Toronto.

Rev. S. D. Chown, General Superintendent Methodist Church, Toronto.

Archbishop McNeil, Wellesley Place, Toronto.

Bishop Fallon, London, Ont.

Archbishop Bruchesi, Montreal.
E. P. Fetherstonhaugh, Esq., Royal Bank Building, Toronto.
Principal Gordon, Queen's University, Kingston.
Augustus Bridle, Editor, "Courier", Toronto.
Principal Gandier, Knox College, Toronto.

Rev. W. T. Herridge, Ottawa.

Rev. Bruce Taylor, St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Montreal.

Sir Edmund Walker, Canadian Bank of Commerce, Toronto.

Z. A. Lash, Esq., Canadian Bank of Commerce, Toronto.

J. M. Flavelle, Esq., Imperial Munitions Board, Ottawa.

J. W. Woods, Esq., Gordon Mackay and Co., Toronto.

Frank Beer, Esq., Ryrie Building, Toronto.

Hon. W. J. Hanna, Wychwood Park, Toronto.

Robert Reford, Esq., Montreal.

Professor C. W. Colby, Montreal.

Hon. Sir J. A. M. Aikens, Winnipeg.

Mr. Manton, Messrs. Osler Hammond and Manton, Winnipeg.

President W. C. Murray, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Sask.

President Tory, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alta.

Hon. W. M. Martin, Premier of Saskatchewan, Regina, Sask.

F. C. Wade, Esq., Vancouver, B.C.

Mr. Scott, Editor, "News-Advertiser", Vancouver, B.C.

O. M. Biggar, Esq., Edmonton, Alta.

Professor M. W. Wallace, University College, Toronto.

Dean Pakenham, Faculty of Education, University of Toronto.

Professor J. C. Robertson, Victoria College, Toronto.

Principal Hutton, University College, Toronto.

March 19th, 1917

Professor J. T. Shotwell,

Columbia University.

My dear Professor Shotwell:

I am very glad to know that things are
coming on for you as quickly as they are and that
you can devote the afternoon of the 31st to the
Association.

I hope to be in New York for two or three
days next week (March 26th to 28th inclusive) and
am looking forward to
Please remember me very cordially to Mrs. Shotwell
and I will look forward to seeing you at some
time you may be personally convenient for me. I expect to leave
Washington on the morning of Saturday, the 24th.

With warm regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

April 18th, 1917

Professor J. T. Shotwell,

Columbia University,

New York.

My dear Professor Shotwell:

[illegible]

Daniel Jordan of Columbia University for a position as Associate-Professor in Oregon in University College. Can you give me any information about him? Of course I will treat what you say as perfectly confidential. It is altogether probable, however, that we may not make a permanent appointment at present to such an advanced position, but if he is an exceedingly good man possibly we ought not to lose him.

[illegible]

Yours very truly,

President.

Columbia University
in the City of New York
FACULTY OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

April 20, 1917.

President R.A.Falconer
Toronto University
Toronto, Canada

Dear President Falconer,-

I have just come in from Washington whence I sent you a hurried note and find your letter of inquiry on my desk.

I believe that Professor Jordan was not very successful in maintaining discipline in large classes of undergraduates. In the days when he was teaching here of course there was an initial prejudice against France and a tendency on the part of the undergraduate to take advantage of every occasion to show that they were red-blooded American boys and had no use for the culture of France! On the other hand Professor Jordan always struck me as a fine gentlemanly type of man and I know that he is earnest and conscientious. I did not know him well at the opening months of the war but he wrote some letters to the N.Y.Evening Post and to the Times which were the best statements I have seen of the French claims, both concerning the war itself and concerning Alsace-Lorraine. I was so struck by them at the time that I clipped them for preservation, but in view of the mass of war material which has accumulated since then I am afraid I cannot put my finger upon them.

I should not be able to give an unqualified recommendation as you see, but for a temporary appointment I think you could rest assured that you had a man who would do credit to the Department with which he was associated.

Now concerning the other matter about which I wrote you from Washington, if England began the war by muddling I do not know just what superlative word to use to characterize the muddle in which things have got in Washington and thruout the country under the old Prussian Guard at the head of our war machine in Washington, which has not learned anything so far as I can see by the experience of the whole European war. So intent are the militarists upon forcing through the Conscription Bill that unless I am misreading the documents before me, they are intent upon making every other kind of military organization impossible, just at the moment when they should bring out of the old machinery every ounce of power it has. It was suggested to me, therefore, that since the War Department was making impossible the drilling of college boys by calling in all of their instructors to the army proper, there would be

a good chance to bring in Canadian University men to help us drill our college contingent. You can imagine that the suggestion appealed to me, not only from the standpoint of the efficiency but also from the sentimental side. Only the proper kind of man would have to be sent. It would be a mistake to have a Martinet sent over to a group of college boys who would form the opinion that Canadians, one and all, were of that type. You can readily see the line of thought in this matter.

I can go no further in the definiteness of the suggestion just yet, but may write you shortly again.

You may be interested to know that while at Washington I succeeded in getting a conference called of the leading historians from all over the country to cooperate in that great task of eliminating ancient prejudice and setting forth correct perspectives. We meet next week, otherwise I should be in Toronto at the Round Table Conference, to which Colonel Massey had invited me.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. T. Shotwell

April 21st. 1917

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April 28th, 1917

Professor J. M. Cattell,

Columbia University,

New York.

Dear Professor Cattell:

I have just received the enclosed copy of a letter from General Carter, Chief of the General Staff at Ottawa, which is favourable, so now you may go ahead.

Yours sincerely,

President.

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May 8th, 1917

Professor J. T. Shotwell,

Columbia University,

New York.

My dear Professor Shotwell:

I saw General Swatkin on Saturday. I have a letter from him this morning again saying that no representativ from Columbia has yet arrived in Ottawa.

We have decided to recommend Mr. Hodder Williams to go down to Columbia. Whether he would be willing to go we do not yet know, but he should be, I think, an ideal man. He is on our history staff though a graduate of Oxford. He served through our Officers' Training Corps, had a commission in England, won the military cross in France, has been invalided home, and has now been given an appointment for Canadian service. If he would go to Columbia I feel sure he would fill the position admirably.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

May 30th, 1917

Professor J. T. Shotwell,

1133 Woodward Building, Washington, D.C.

Dear Professor Shotwell:

I am afraid that it would be impossible to secure a man for the College in Texas to which you refer. There are really not many returned wounded officers who are in a position to give instruction. Most of those who are back are already doing such military work as they are able to perform. There are, however, fewer back permanently than you would expect.

With regard to Professor Braun I am afraid that from now on it would be very hard to get a lecture in the city.

The visit of Mr. Balfour was a very great success and he put the case for the relations of the United States and Canada very ~~widely~~ ably.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

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July 5th, 1917

Professor J. T. Shotwell,

Washington, D.C.

My dear Professor Shotwell:

I am very sorry that I did not get time to drop in to see you during my two short days in Washington. I was on the way to the Woodward Building on the fourth of July when I was called for to be taken to address a meeting of school children where the French Ambassador was the speaker of the afternoon, and the time that elapsed between that and the departure of my train was too short in which to make a visit, and I asked one of the gentlemen whom I met in Washington to convey to you my regret.

I have just received your pamphlet "How the War Came to America" and I am taking it with me on my holiday. I hope that the humid heat at Washington will not melt you entirely.

Yours sincerely,

President.